



MEDIA RELEASE

Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

www.cbdbug.org.au

15 May 2013

'A Metre Matters' Awareness Ride - Moggill Road, Kenmore 17 May 2013

A large number of cyclists will ride together along Moggill Rd at Kenmore at 7.30am this Friday morning 17 May 2013, to raise awareness of the need for motorists to drive safely when in proximity to bike riders.

The ride has been organised by the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) and is supported by the Amy Gillett Foundation. Both groups are also calling on the Queensland Government to recognise the risk motor vehicles pose to cyclists, by introducing a new road requiring motorists to give cyclists a minimum of 1 metre of space when overtaking.

The riders will start at the Kenmore roundabout and pass the location where Richard Pollett, aged just 25, was tragically killed while cycling in Kenmore in September 2011 by a truck as the driver attempted to overtake him. Riders are being asked to wear black arm bands as a mark of respect for Richard, whose death has also been marked with an all-white "ghost bike" at the intersection of Blacon Street and Moggill Road. Ghost bikes are a sombre memorial for bike riders who are killed on the road and also serve as a quiet statement in support of cyclists' right to safe travel.

CBD BUG spokesman Paul French said that before another bike rider is killed and another family devastated it is imperative the government introduce a minimum one metre rule for motorists overtaking cyclists. "Riders continue to have their lives placed at risk by motorist behaving irresponsibly and/or impatiently and are hugely disappointed by the lack of any response from the State Government on this critical safety issue" said Mr French.

The Amy Gillett Foundation has been working at the national level to reduce the incidence of death and injury of bike riders and is supporting the 'a metre matters' awareness ride including by handing out bumper stickers to all riders. Amy Gillett Foundation CEO Tracey Gaudry said "the current road rules are failing bicycle riders because they don't protect them when being overtaken by drivers. A minimum overtaking distance of one metre is practical, enforceable and is safer for bicycle riders."

Everyone has the right to ride safely for work and play." Gaudry concluded.

All riders taking part are reminded to abide by the Queensland road rules.

Police will escort the cyclists to maximise safety for all ride participants and other road users with a safety briefing to be held prior to departure.

The ride will proceed regardless of the weather.

Day/date:	Friday 17 May 2013
Pre-ride briefing:	7.15am
Departure time:	7.30am
Ride starts:	Kenmore Village Shopping Centre carpark (adjacent to the Kenmore roundabout, Moggill Rd)
Ride ends:	Centenary Bikeway, at junction with Moggill Rd
Ride distance:	Approximately 3km

Ends

Contact: Paul French 0423 974 825 Donald Campbell 0402 609 723

convenors@cbdbug.org.au